For the most part those I've mentioned are more than are available from any one nursery in the Los Angeles area. Monrovia catalog lists 20, ocassionally lists a "new" one. They did list 53 a few years ago, but didn't actually have them. The smaller nurseries rarely have more than 10 or 15. The interest doesn't seem to be there or too many can remember getting caught in a freeze and have become discouraged. Most of the nurseries hereabouts won't be bothered with grafting Hibiscus. If a variety will bear easily on its own roots - maybe.

I get rumors now and then that somebody is importing some new ones with an idea of making a "killing", but no sign yet.

What could be of far more significance is the work Gast has been doing in conjunction with the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum. The "Lux" area, which is on a relatively "frost free" belt several miles from the Arboretum proper, has plantings of several hundred Gast seedlings. Some of which are proving to be "tremendous". A major element of this program was to develop some new varieties with outstanding habit, flower substance, and temperature resistance equal or better than Agnes Gault, which does exceedingly well on its own roots here.

My own work has been primarily collecting, wherein I gather any species, variety, or new relative I can get my hands on. In the process I've run out of planting space, so have taken a leaf from Gast's book and keep most of my "collection" in containers, which also has the advantage of allowing me to move them under a polyethylene shelter during the winter months. I still lose a few each year, usually those rooted or grafted fairly late in the season and not really established, altho poor air circulation and consequent mildew and/or stem rot contributes. Someday I'd like to acquire some property near the ocean and really do it right.

-O-

He jilted Helen. Helen sued. He married Helen. Hell ensued.

INTERESTED IN THE PERENNIAL HIBISCUS?

We have received a letter from Mr. C. S. Kennedy, 4337 Bright Road, Dublin, Ohio, in which he described at length his work with "The Flower the North Forgot"

It is quite interesting. He has done quite a lot of work with chemicals, crossings, seedlings etc. If you are interested in knowing more of his work or would like to try out some of his plants drop him a line. He has sent some seed to the Executive Secretary for trial and I understand that some of the members in Jacksonville have some. Why not drop him a line?

-O-

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